

84-14-03

RCE

EL838838881US

PTO/SB/03 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number 09/938,223

Filing Date October 23, 2001

First Named Inventor Baudendistel

Group Art Unit 2834

Examiner Name M.O. Budd

Attorney Docket Number DP-305926

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Notice: Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(e), if the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks finds that the RCE is filed, an inventor may wish to consider filing a continuation prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/03) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. Previously submitted
 i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on 1-21-03
 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 iii. Other _____

b. Enclosed
 i. Amendment/Reply
 ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 iv. Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

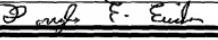
a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)

b. Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

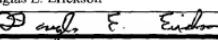
a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 20-0809
 i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required (including the fee for any extension of time), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Acct No. 20-0809.
 b. Check in the amount of \$ 860.00 enclosed
 c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-203d enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Douglas E Erickson	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	29,530
Signature		Date	4/11/03

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)	Douglas E. Erickson	Date	4/11/03
Signature			

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND FEES and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

04/16/2003 RMEBRAH 00000002 09938223

01 PCT:1801

750.00 0P